

By: Blanco

H.B. No. 1452

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study regarding cyber attacks on election infrastructure.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 31, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 31.013 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.013. ELECTION CYBER ATTACK STUDY. (a) Not later than December 1, 2018, the secretary of state shall conduct a study regarding cyber attacks on election infrastructure and shall report the study's findings to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over election procedures. The study shall include:

(1) an investigation of vulnerabilities and risks for a cyber attack against voting system machines, the list of registered voters, and election administrators' websites;

(2) information on any attempted cyber attack on voting system machines, the list of registered voters, and election administrators' websites; and

(3) recommendations for protecting voting system machines, the list of registered voters, and election administrators' websites from a cyber attack.

(b) In conducting the study required by this section, the secretary of state may consult with any state agency with appropriate expertise, including the Department of Public Safety

1 and the Department of Information Resources.

2 (c) This section expires January 1, 2019.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.